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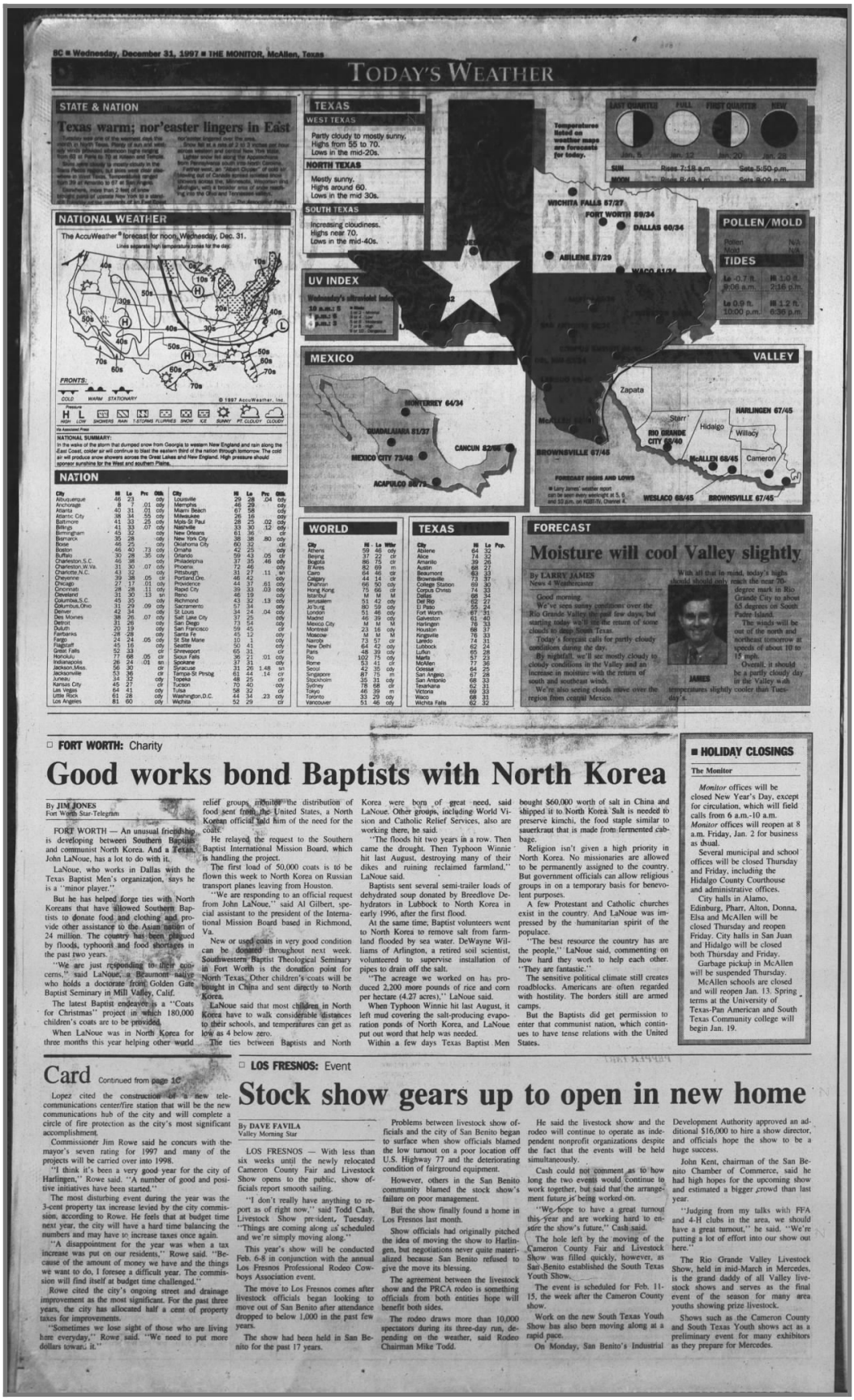

8C ■ Wednesday, December 31, 1997 ■ THE MONITOR, McAllen, Texas

TODAY'S WEATHER

STATE & NATION

Texas warm; nor'easter lingers in East

TEXAS

WEST TEXAS
Partly cloudy to mostly sunny. Highs from 55 to 70. Lows in the mid-20s.

NORTH TEXAS
Mostly sunny. Highs around 60. Lows in the mid 30s.

SOUTH TEXAS
Increasing cloudiness. Highs near 70. Lows in the mid-40s.

Temperatures listed on weather maps are forecasts for today.

WICHITA FALLS 67/27
FORT WORTH 69/34
DALLAS 66/34
ABILENE 57/29
WACO 61/34

LAST QUARTER | FULL | FIRST QUARTER | NEW
Jan. 5 | Jan. 12 | Jan. 20 | Jan. 28

SUN Rises 7:18 a.m. Sets 5:50 p.m.
MOON Rises 8:48 a.m. Sets 8:09 p.m.

POLLEN/MOLD
Pollen N/A
Mold N/A

TIDES
Lo -0.7 ft. 9:06 a.m. | Hi 1.0 ft. 2:56 p.m.
Lo 0.9 ft. 10:00 p.m. | Hi 1.2 ft. 6:36 p.m.

NATIONAL WEATHER

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Wednesday, Dec. 31.
Lines separate high temperature zones for the day.

FRONTS: COLD WARM STATIONARY
© 1997 AccuWeather, Inc.

NATIONAL SUMMARY:
In the wake of the storm that dumped snow from Georgia to western New England and rain along the East Coast, colder air will continue to blast the eastern third of the nation through tomorrow. The cold air will produce snow showers across the Great Lakes and New England. High pressure should sponsor sunshine for the West and southern Plains.

UV INDEX
Wednesday's ultraviolet index
10 a.m.: 5
1 p.m.: 5
4 p.m.: 3

MEXICO
MONTERREY 64/34
GUADALAJARA 81/37
MEXICO CITY 73/48
CANCUN 82/66
ACAPULCO 86/75

VALLEY
Zapata
Starr
Hidalgo
Willacy
HARLINGEN 67/45
RIO GRANDE CITY 69/40
McALLEN 68/45
Cameron
BROWNSVILLE 67/45
WESLACO 68/45
BROWNSVILLE 67/45
FORECAST HIGHS AND LOWS
At Larry James' weather report can be seen every weeknight at 5, 6 and 10 p.m. on KGBT-TV, Channel 4.

NATION

City	Hi	Lo	Prc	Otlk
Albuquerque	46	23		cdy
Anchorage	8	7	.01	cdy
Atlanta	40	31	.01	cdy
Atlantic City	38	34	.55	cdy
Baltimore	41	33	.25	cdy
Billings	41	33	.07	cdy
Birmingham	45	32		cdy
Bismarck	35	28		cdy
Boise	46	25		cdy
Boston	46	40	.73	cdy
Buffalo	30	28	.35	cdy
Charleston,S.C.	46	38		cdy
Charleston,W.Va.	31	30	.07	cdy
Charlotte,N.C.	43	32		cdy
Cheyenne	39	38	.05	clr
Chicago	27	17	.01	cdy
Cincinnati	28	28	.11	cdy
Cleveland	31	30	.13	sn
Columbia,S.C.	45	25		cdy
Columbus,Ohio	31	29	.09	cdy
Denver	42	34		cdy
Des Moines	38	26	.07	cdy
Detroit	31	26		cdy
Duluth	20	19		cdy
Fairbanks	-28	-28		cdy
Fargo	24	24	.05	cdy
Flagstaff	45	16		cdy
Grdst Falls	52	33		clr
Honolulu	77	68	.05	cr
Indianapolis	26	24	.01	sn
Jackson,Miss.	56	30		clr
Jacksonville	53	36		clr
Juneau	34	32		cdy
Kansas City	45	27		clr
Las Vegas	64	41		cdy
Little Rock	61	28		cdy
Los Angeles	81	60		cdy
Louisville	29	28	.04	cdy
Memphis	46	29		cdy
Miami Beach	67	58		cdy
Milwaukee	26	16		cdy
Mpls-St Paul	28	25	.02	cdy
Nashville	33	30	.12	cdy
New Orleans	61	36		clr
New York City	39	38	.80	cdy
Oklahoma City	60	32		clr
Omaha	42	25		cdy
Orlando	59	43	.05	clr
Philadelphia	37	35	.46	cdy
Phoenix	72	46		cdy
Pittsburgh	31	27	.11	sn
Portland,Ore.	46	42		cdy
Providence	44	37	.61	cdy
Rapid City	39	33	.03	cdy
Reno	46	19		cdy
Richmond	43	32	.13	cdy
Sacramento	57	34		cdy
St Louis	34	24	.04	cdy
Salt Lake City	37	25		cdy
San Diego	73	54		cdy
San Francisco	59	45		clr
Santa Fe	45	12		cdy
St Ste Marie	10	1		cdy
Seattle	50	41		cdy
Shreveport	65	31		clr
Sioux Falls	36	21	.01	cdy
Spokane	37	31		cdy
Syracuse	31	26	1.48	sn
Tampa-St Prsbg	61	44	.14	clr
Topeka	48	25		clr
Tucson	70	40		cdy
Tulsa	58	32		clr
Washington,D.C.	44	34	.23	cdy
Wichita	52	29		clr

WORLD

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr
Athens	59	46	cdy
Beijing	37	21	cdy
Berlin	86	75	clr
B Aires	82	69	m
Cairo	64	46	clr
Calgary	46	42	cdy
Dhahran	66	50	cdy
Hong Kong	75	66	clr
Istanbul	M	M	M
Jerusalem	51	42	cdy
Jo'burg	80	59	cdy
London	51	48	cdy
Madrid	46	39	cdy
Mexico City	M	M	M
Montreal	23	16	cdy
Moscow	M	M	M
Nairobi	73	57	clr
New Delhi	64	43	cdy
Paris	48	39	cdy
Rio	102	75	cdy
Rome	53	41	clr
Seoul	42	35	cdy
Singapore	87	75	m
Stockholm	35	31	cdy
Sydney	78	68	clr
Tokyo	46	39	m
Toronto	33	29	cdy
Vancouver	51	46	cdy

TEXAS

City	Hi	Lo	Prc
Abilene	64	32	
Alice	74	32	
Amarillo	39	26	
Austin	68	37	
Beaumont	63	33	
Brownsville	73	37	
College Station	69	30	
Corpus Christi	74	33	
Dallas	66	34	
Del Rio	69	27	
El Paso	55	24	
Fort Worth	67	31	
Galveston	61	40	
Harlingen	76	33	
Houston	68	37	
Kingsville	76	33	
Laredo	74	31	
Lubbock	62	24	
Lufkin	65	28	
Marfa	57	23	
McAllen	77	36	
Odessa	64	25	
San Angelo	67	28	
San Antonio	68	33	
Texarkana	62	31	
Victoria	69	33	
Waco	68	31	
Wichita Falls	62	32	

FORECAST

Moisture will cool Valley slightly

By LARRY JAMES
News 4 Weathercaster

Good morning.

We've seen sunny conditions over the Rio Grande Valley the past few days, but starting today we'll see the return of some clouds to deep South Texas.

Today's forecast calls for partly cloudy conditions during the day.

By nightfall, we'll see mostly cloudy to cloudy conditions in the Valley and an increase in moisture with the return of south and southeast winds.

We're also seeing clouds move over the region from central Mexico.

With all that in mind, today's highs should should only reach the near 70-degree mark in Rio Grande City to about 65 degrees on South Padre Island.

The winds will be out of the north and northeast tomorrow at speeds of about 10 to 15 mph.

Overall, it should be a partly cloudy day in the Valley with temperatures slightly cooler than Tuesday's.

JAMES

□ **FORT WORTH:** Charity

Good works bond Baptists with North Korea

By JIM JONES
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH — An unusual friendship is developing between Southern Baptists and communist North Korea. And a Texan, John LaNoue, has a lot to do with it.

LaNoue, who works in Dallas with the Texas Baptist Men's organization, says he is a "minor player."

But he has helped forge ties with North Koreans that have allowed Southern Baptists to donate food and clothing and provide other assistance to the Asian nation of 24 million. The country has been plagued by floods, typhoons and food shortages in the past two years.

"We are just responding to their concerns," said LaNoue, a Beaumont native who holds a doctorate from Golden Gate Baptist Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.

The latest Baptist endeavor is a "Coats for Christmas" project in which 180,000 children's coats are to be provided.

When LaNoue was in North Korea for three months this year helping other world relief groups monitor the distribution of food sent from the United States, a North Korean official told him of the need for the coats.

He relayed the request to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, which is handling the project.

The first load of 50,000 coats is to be flown this week to North Korea on Russian transport planes leaving from Houston.

"We are responding to an official request from John LaNoue," said Al Gilbert, special assistant to the president of the International Mission Board based in Richmond, Va.

New or used coats in very good condition can be donated throughout next week. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth is the donation point for North Texas. Other children's coats will be bought in China and sent directly to North Korea.

LaNoue said that most children in North Korea have to walk considerable distances to their schools, and temperatures can get as low as 4 below zero.

The ties between Baptists and North Korea were born of great need, said LaNoue. Other groups, including World Vision and Catholic Relief Services, also are working there, he said.

"The floods hit two years in a row. Then came the drought. Then Typhoon Winnie hit last August, destroying many of their dikes and ruining reclaimed farmland," LaNoue said.

Baptists sent several semi-trailer loads of dehydrated soup donated by Breedlove Dehydrators in Lubbock to North Korea in early 1996, after the first flood.

At the same time, Baptist volunteers went to North Korea to remove salt from farmland flooded by sea water. DeWayne Williams of Arlington, a retired soil scientist, volunteered to supervise installation of pipes to drain off the salt.

"The acreage we worked on has produced 2,200 more pounds of rice and corn per hectare (4.27 acres)," LaNoue said.

When Typhoon Winnie hit last August, it left mud covering the salt-producing evaporation ponds of North Korea, and LaNoue put out word that help was needed.

Within a few days Texas Baptist Men bought $60,000 worth of salt in China and shipped it to North Korea. Salt is needed to preserve kimchi, the food staple similar to sauerkraut that is made from fermented cabbage.

Religion isn't given a high priority in North Korea. No missionaries are allowed to be permanently assigned to the country. But government officials can allow religious groups in on a temporary basis for benevolent purposes.

A few Protestant and Catholic churches exist in the country. And LaNoue was impressed by the humanitarian spirit of the populace.

"The best resource the country has are the people," LaNoue said, commenting on how hard they work to help each other. "They are fantastic."

The sensitive political climate still creates roadblocks. Americans are often regarded with hostility. The borders still are armed camps.

But the Baptists did get permission to enter that communist nation, which continues to have tense relations with the United States.

■ **HOLIDAY CLOSINGS**
The Monitor

Monitor offices will be closed New Year's Day, except for circulation, which will field calls from 6 a.m.-10 a.m. *Monitor* offices will reopen at 8 a.m. Friday, Jan. 2 for business as usual.

Several municipal and school offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, including the Hidalgo County Courthouse and administrative offices.

City halls in Alamo, Edinburg, Pharr, Alton, Donna, Elsa and McAllen will be closed Thursday and reopen Friday. City halls in San Juan and Hidalgo will be closed both Thursday and Friday.

Garbage pickup in McAllen will be suspended Thursday.

McAllen schools are closed and will reopen Jan. 13. Spring terms at the University of Texas-Pan American and South Texas Community college will begin Jan. 19.

Card

Continued from page 1C

Lopez cited the construction of a new telecommunications center/fire station that will be the new communications hub of the city and will complete a circle of fire protection as the city's most significant accomplishment.

Commissioner Jim Rowe said he concurs with the mayor's seven rating for 1997 and many of the projects will be carried over into 1998.

"I think it's been a very good year for the city of Harlingen," Rowe said. "A number of good and positive initiatives have been started."

The most disturbing event during the year was the 3-cent property tax increase levied by the city commission, according to Rowe. He feels that at budget time next year, the city will have a hard time balancing the numbers and may have to increase taxes once again.

"A disappointment for the year was when a tax increase was put on our residents," Rowe said. "Because of the amount of money we have and the things we want to do, I foresee a difficult year. The commission will find itself at budget time challenged."

Rowe cited the city's ongoing street and drainage improvement as the most significant. For the past three years, the city has allocated half a cent of property taxes for improvements.

"Sometimes we lose sight of those who are living here everyday," Rowe said. "We need to put more dollars toward it."

□ **LOS FRESNOS:** Event

Stock show gears up to open in new home

By DAVE FAVILA
Valley Morning Star

LOS FRESNOS — With less than six weeks until the newly relocated Cameron County Fair and Livestock Show opens to the public, show officials report smooth sailing.

"I don't really have anything to report as of right now," said Todd Cash, Livestock Show president, Tuesday. "Things are coming along as scheduled and we're simply moving along."

This year's show will be conducted Feb. 6-8 in conjunction with the annual Los Fresnos Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association event.

The move to Los Fresnos comes after livestock officials began looking to move out of San Benito after attendance dropped to below 1,000 in the past few years.

The show had been held in San Benito for the past 17 years.

Problems between livestock show officials and the city of San Benito began to surface when show officials blamed the low turnout on a poor location off U.S. Highway 77 and the deteriorating condition of fairground equipment.

However, others in the San Benito community blamed the stock show's failure on poor management.

But the show finally found a home in Los Fresnos last month.

Show officials had originally pitched the idea of moving the show to Harlingen, but negotiations never quite materialized because San Benito refused to give the move its blessing.

The agreement between the livestock show and the PRCA rodeo is something officials from both entities hope will benefit both sides.

The rodeo draws more than 10,000 spectators during its three-day run, depending on the weather, said Rodeo Chairman Mike Todd.

He said the livestock show and the rodeo will continue to operate as independent nonprofit organizations despite the fact that the events will be held simultaneously.

Cash could not comment as to how long the two events would continue to work together, but said that the arrangement future is being worked on.

"We hope to have a great turnout this year and are working hard to ensure the show's future," Cash said.

The hole left by the moving of the Cameron County Fair and Livestock Show was filled quickly, however, as San Benito established the South Texas Youth Show.

The event is scheduled for Feb. 11-15, the week after the Cameron County show.

Work on the new South Texas Youth Show has also been moving along at a rapid pace.

On Monday, San Benito's Industrial Development Authority approved an additional $16,000 to hire a show director, and officials hope the show to be a huge success.

John Kent, chairman of the San Benito Chamber of Commerce, said he had high hopes for the upcoming show and estimated a bigger crowd than last year.

"Judging from my talks with FFA and 4-H clubs in the area, we should have a great turnout," he said. "We're putting a lot of effort into our show out here."

The Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show, held in mid-March in Mercedes, is the grand daddy of all Valley livestock shows and serves as the final event of the season for many area youths showing prize livestock.

Shows such as the Cameron County and South Texas Youth shows act as a preliminary event for many exhibitors as they prepare for Mercedes.

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